

ATTACHMENT 1

To: Staff Work Group on Urban Water Use Measurement
From: Bennett Brooks and Eric Poncelet, CONCUR, Inc.
Date: March 12, 2003
Re: Proposed Purpose Statement

Attached please find a proposed Purpose Statement for the Staff Work Group on Urban Water Use Measurement. The document describes the intended purpose and role of the Staff Work Group. This document will be reviewed at the March 18 Work Group meeting.

Proposed Purpose Statement
Staff Work Group on Urban Water Use Measurement
(For review at March 18, 2003, Staff Work Group meeting)

The Bay-Delta Authority's Water Use Efficiency (WUE) Program is convening a Staff Work Group to help develop well informed definitions of and standards for urban water use measurement. This initiative, called for in CALFED's August 2000 Record of Decision and intended to foster efficient and equitable management of state and regional water resources, is expected to inform the Authority's subsequent discussion and possible development of an appropriate legislative proposal.

The Program recognizes that stakeholder groups have divergent views on the role measurement plays in fostering water resource management improvements. A recent series of stakeholder interviews conducted on behalf of the WUE Program underscores this point, particularly as it relates to service metering.

Many stakeholder groups, noting that much of California's urban areas are already metered, say there is significant data on-hand to support the resource efficiency benefits of metering coupled with volumetric pricing. Other stakeholders, noting the ongoing resistance to metering in key urban areas, suggest certain localities and regions have resource efficiency, historic, legal and social equity reasons for not moving forward with a different approach to measurement.

The WUE Program is committed to using the Staff Work Group, on a fast-track basis, to better articulate and understand these different conclusions and determine:

- (1) Are there elements of a shared analysis that can be distilled from these differing perspectives; and,
- (2) If so, can they be woven into a broadly acceptable and sound legislative approach to urban water use measurement?

Additionally, the WUE Program intends to use the Work Group to take a similar look at other facets of measurement that are increasingly discussed within California's water use policy settings. These include, but are not limited to:

- Sub-metering
- Landscape metering and aerial surveys
- Wastewater/recycled water metering

The Staff Work Group is not a formal advisory body. Rather it serves as a sounding board for the WUE Program Manager, who is responsible for drafting an approach that will be subsequently discussed with the broader stakeholder community and among formal Authority advisory and decision-making bodies.